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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 02668 051439 Z

70
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NIC-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 RSR-01 /129 W
---------- 117252
R 051415 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8145

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 2668

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR IT NATO
SUBJECT: POLITICAL COMMENTS OF MINISTER FERRARI AGGRADI (F- A)

1. THE AMBASSADOR HAD A USEFUL AND EXTREMELY CORDIAL VISIT WITH MINISTER FERRARI AGGRADI, MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT HOLDINGS.

2. F- A WAS QUITE CANDID IN HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN ROME BUT WAS PRUDENTLY VAGUE ABOUT HIS PERSONAL POSITION IN THE CURRENT JOCKEYING FOR POSITION AMONG DC FACTIONS. HE TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT WILL LAST UNTIL THE DC CONGRESS IN JUNE, POSSIBLY MUCH LONGER. F- A SAID THERE WILL BE MUCH TALK ABOUT BRINGING THE SOCIALISTS INTO THE GOVERNMENT BUT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS HE IS UNABLE TO SEE THIS EVENT TAKING PLACE. HE BELIEVES THAT IT IS USEFUL FOR THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TO KEEP TALKING TO THE SOCIALISTS SINCE IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO APPEAR TO BE EXCLUDING THEM FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.

3. TURNING TO THE ALLIANCE F- A REASSURED THE AMBASSADOR THAT NATO AND THE US RELATIONSHIP ARE AT THE HEART OF ITALIAN FOREIGN POLICY. THIS VIEW IS HELD BY ALL PARTIES IN THE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS MANY SOCIALISTS.

4. F- A EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE AMBASSADOR WOULD TRAVEL
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THROUGHOUT ITALY AS HE BELIEVES IT VALUABLE TO OUR FUNDAMENTAL RELATIONSHIP THAT THE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE BE SEEN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. VOLPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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